Threat to Software Sector

785. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATIONTECHNOLOG Y be pleasd to state:

(a) whether NASSCOM has commented on the China' emergence as a threat to Indian Software Sector in the World Market;

(b) whether China had in the past, sought access to the working of Indian IT industry through delegations from China's IT industry and whether India had played host to many such delegations;

(c) whether it is a fact that china does not reciprocate our gesture by providing us access to study their IT sector; and

(d) whether NASSCOM has cautioned its members to curtail its interaction with their Chinese counterparts?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS, MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The NASSCOM - McKinsey 2002 Study has indicated that we should treat China as the potential competitor in IT software and services business.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) There have not been any indicators to this effect.

(d) NASSCOM has apprised its members about China being a competitor to India in IT software and services and advised them to be proactive in implementing suitable strategies to protect their long term interests. NASSCOM believes that a policy of'complementarity and collaboration' would be preferable.

Regulation of Courier Service Trade

786. SHRI K.B. KRISHNA MURTHY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATIONTECHNOLOG Y be pleased to state:•

(a) whether Government propose to regulate functioning of Courier Service Trade through licensing system;

(b) whether the Postal Board would be empowered to issue the licenses for courier operations against a licence fee;